

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-10 ACDA-05 /075 W

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R 180828Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1084

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONGEN ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TU, US, UR

SUBJECT: ALLEGED SOVIET PRESSURE TO KEEP COMMON DEFENSE

INSTALLATIONS (CDI'S) CLOSED

1. THE OCTOBER 15 EDITION OF AYRINTILI HABER (A NEW NEWSPAPER WHICH CONCENTRATES ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS PUBLISHED BY MASS CIRCULATION GUNAYDIN) CARRIED A STORY CLAIMING THE SOVIET UNION HAD MADE AN ORAL PRESENTATION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE VOTE LIFTING THE EMBARGO RECOMMENDING THAT THE US-TURKISH COMMON DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS NOT BE RE-OPENED. AYRINTILI HABER QUOTES FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES AS SAYING THE SOVIET RECOMMENDATION WAS BASED ON ARTICLE 6 OF A JOINT STATEMENT SIGNED BY TURKEY AND THE SOVIET UNION IN APRIL 1972. ARTICLE 6 REPORTEDLY PLEDGES THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL NOT RESORT TO FORCE OR THREAT OF FORCE AND THAT THE TERRITORIES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BE USED FOR AGGRESSIVE OR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. THE NEWSPAPER STORY CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT SOVIET UNION HAD NEVER BEFORE REMINDED TURKEY OF THE 1972 DECLARATION AND SPECULATES THAT IT WAS DOING SO NOW BECAUSE IN THE SOVIET

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VIEW DETENTE HAD BEGUN TO COOL.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF OCTOBER 16, MFA DIRECTOR OF EASTERN DEPARTMENT DENIED THE STORY AND SAID THAT THE MFA SPOKESMAN HAD ISSUED A STATEMENT. STATEMENT WHICH APPEARS IN ONE NEWSPAPER OCT. 17 SAYS "THERE HAS BEEN NO WRITTEN OR VERBAL, OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL, STATEMENT TO OUR MINISTRY PERSONNEL BY ANY OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY PERSONNEL ON THIS TOPIC SO FAR." AYRINTILI HABER IS STICKING BY STORY, HOWEVER. MOREOVER, A SOVIET EMBASSY THIRD SECRETARY IN COVERSATION WITH EMBOFF EVENING OCT 15 SAID SOVIET EMBASSY HAD IN FACT APPROACHED FOREIGN MINISTRY ON SUBJECT OF REOPENING OF INSTALLATIONS.

3. COMMENT: IT SEEMS VERY UNLIKELY THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD INSTRUCT ITS EMBASSY HERE TO MAKE THE KIND OF APPROACH REPORTED IN AYRINTILI HABER SINCE TURKS WOULD GENERALLY INTERPRET IT AS INTERFERENCE IN AN INTERNAL MATTER AND THE APPROACH WOULD THUS HAVE THE OPPOSITE AFFECT OF THAT DESIRED BY THE SOVIET UNION. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT SEEMS EQUALLY UNLIKELY, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF SOVIET DIPLOMAT'S CONFIRMATION OF THE INCIDENT, THAT THE STORY JUST APPEARED OUT OF THE

BLUE. IT IS, OF COURSE, POSSIBLE THAT THE THIRD SECRETARY WAS MISTAKEN, BUT A MORE LIKELY EXPLANATION IS THAT ONE OF HIS EMBASSY COLLEAGUES DID IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER RAISE THE SUBJECT WITH SOME MFA OFFICIAL.

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